

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

December 9, 2005

**State Aid, Equalization, and Out of State Athletes and Entertainers Funds - \$3,001,744**

The funding for the 2006 fiscal year for State Aid, Equalization and Athlete & Entertainer's for public libraries has been distributed.

- State aid (per capita) - \$2,123,648.63
- Equalization Funds - \$878,095.37
- Athletes & Entertainers Funds - \$100,000

**State Publications Access Program**

Good progress was made on the program in this past three months. We finalized the list of designees appointed by the heads of the state agencies. A meeting of the designees was convened here to provide an overview of the program and to discuss procedures for submitting electronic state publications to the State Library. Since some agencies have designated down to the division level, there were 42 invitational letters sent out. We had 30 people in attendance. The attendees were very interested in the program, eager to comply and want to participate in the discussion.

Jason Stirnman and the Information Technology staff worked more on the method of submitting the electronic publications. Procedures have been developed and revised. State agencies should be using this new method of submitting publications by next week.

The designees are currently submitting lists of publications which are considered important to the work done by their agencies. We are creating lists of titles which had been submitted when we had the paper-based depository program. Those lists will be sent to the designees.

**Reference Services Outreach**

Cindy Bassett has developed a very successful training program which has been offered to state employees for about a year and a half. This training assists state employees in the use of the online resources being offered to them by Reference Services. Monthly training has been provided for Secretary of State employees. Some of the training has been done on site at the request of state agency personnel. The next step in this program will begin in January. Reference Services will be offering monthly training at the Truman Building. This training will be offered to the employees of all state agencies. By moving it to the Truman Building it will be more accessible to employees from other agencies.

## **Wolfner Volunteer Appreciation Dinner**

Volunteers add spirit and heart to the services Wolfner Library provide to Missouri citizens. They increase the effectiveness of paid staff and help build public awareness for the services available from the library. To honor their efforts, Wolfner held a volunteer appreciation dinner, underwritten by the Friends of Wolfner Library, on October 21 in Jefferson City. Wolfner has honored its volunteers this way for several years, and this year they were declared “Great Works of Art.” Each volunteer’s face appeared in famous works of art decorating the walls of the banquet hall.

The 25 volunteers at the reception received certificates of appreciation and book bags with “Wolfner Library” in print and Braille. They were also treated to entertainment from the “Card Catalog Choir” and “Lost in the Stacks Players,” who won’t be quitting their day jobs as Wolfner employees any time soon.

Speakers at the event included Ray Hagen and Laura Giannarelli, audio book narrators from the National Library Service in Washington, D.C. Executive Deputy Secretary of State Mark Reading, State Librarian Sara Parker, Wolfner Library Director Richard Smith, National Federation of the Blind of Missouri President Gary Wunder, and Missouri Council of the Blind President Kathey Wheeler also offered thanks and congratulations to the volunteers.

Wolfner Library currently has 42 active volunteers. They continue to help Wolfner develop strong ties to the community and are essential to the process of recording books about Missouri.

## **Volunteer Recording Booth**

*Say How? A Pronunciation Guide to Names of Public Figures* was born at the Library of Congress Talking Books for the Blind Recording Studio, where pronunciation of words and names borders on obsession.

Conspicuously missing from many dictionaries and pronunciation guides were the names of lesser known and contemporary public figures. Ray Hagen, the author of *Say How?* and Laura Giannarelli, both audio book narrators from the National Library Service in Washington, D.C., with funding from the Friends of Wolfner Library, contracted with Wolfner Library in October 18-22 to record the audio book *Say How?* Ray and Laura spent three days and 22 hours recording the more than 9,000 words in the *Say How?* document. Wolfner Library will now add the audio to the Internet text document. Network library recording studios around the country and audio studios around the world will now have access to Wolfner’s audio edition of the pronunciation guide *Say How?*.

## **National Centenarian Day**

Secretary of State Robin Carnahan initiated Wolfner Library’s Ten Squared Talking Book Club at the St. Louis Public Library on September 22, 2005. The club was created by the National Library Service (NLS) to recognize the accomplishments of talking book readers 100 years of age and older.

During the ceremony, Secretary Carnahan and Carolyn Sung, Chief of the Network Division of NLS, presented a certificate, pin, and letter of congratulations to 103-year-old Katharine Chambers. Thirteen members were inducted into the club.

### **Statewide Summer Library Program**

Missouri libraries experienced an increase in 2005 in the number of children and teens participating in summer reading program. In part, this was due to several school systems conducting summer library programs, either as a cooperative activity in conjunction with their local public library, or independently. Public libraries reported 145,500 youths participating and school libraries reported 4,100 participating, for a total of more than 150,000 children and teens reading during the summer months.

### **Missouri Participation in National Summer Library Program Evaluation Project**

Missouri was one of eleven states chosen to participate in the Institute for Museum & Library Services (IMLS) first program-specific Outcome Based Evaluation (OBE) project. IMLS has used OBE, a planning and evaluation tool, since 1993, and has provided training so state library agencies can incorporate the evaluation technique to report about Library Services & Technology Act-funded projects.

Historically, summer library programs are the most established and common programs in public libraries. IMLS chose summer library programs as the most logical on which to focus its first national OBE-project. Besides Missouri, representatives from ten other states were chosen to serve on the IMLS Summer Library Program OBE Task Force: Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Nevada, New Jersey, Texas, Vermont and Washington.

Each state was required to send three representatives to participate in the project – one from the state library agency and two public librarians with experience planning and implementing summer library programs. Vera Florea, representing the Springfield-Greene County Library, and Margaret Northcraft, representing the Hannibal Free Public Library, attended the September project meeting in Washington, D.C. with Nancee Dahms-Stinson, youth & senior services consultant at the State Library. Florea has served as the youth services coordinator for the Springfield-Greene County Library system for seven years. This year, the library experienced a 60 percent increase in summer library program participation, due to targeted outreach programs developed by youth services staff. Northcraft has served as the youth services librarian in Hannibal for about seven years, but she has planned and conducted summer library programs in a number of libraries across the nation. Both librarians have served as members of former Missouri State Library summer library program planning committees.

During the two-day meeting Task Force members were charged with creating logic models for their summer library programs. The Task Force will extract the most common elements in each of the plans and build a multistate logic model. OBE Task Force public libraries will incorporate the OBE plans into their 2006 summer library programs and share the results with the other OBE Task Force states. The goal of the national project is to build an evaluation model that will allow library staff across the nation to collect and share similar evaluation results.

## **Training and Continuing Education**

### *2006 Library Skills Institutes*

The 2006 Library Skills Winter Institute will be held February 7-10, 2006, in Columbia, Missouri, at the Quality Inn. The Winter Institute will feature two advanced track courses and one basic track course. The basic track will be collection of courses presenting an overview of public library services in Missouri. The advanced track courses will be Library Services for Older Adults and Library Reference Services. The 2006 Library Skills Summer Institute will be held August 8-11, 2006, in Columbia, Missouri, at the Quality Inn. The Summer Institute will feature two advanced track courses and one basic track course. The advanced track courses will be Library Administration and Management and Library Services for Young Adults.

### *Online Tutorials*

The State Library partnered with the University of North Texas to offer two online tutorials in September and October. Managing Difficult Patrons was accessible for registered participants from September 6 through October 17. Copyright Basics was accessible from October 3 through November 14. Both tutorials required approximately two hours to review and could be completed according to the pace and schedule of each user. Both tutorials involve reading online material, reviewing video or sound clips, and completing self-assessments. According to the evaluation responses, 97% rated the tutorials as Good or Excellent and 94% indicated they would take another online tutorial. One of the goals for the online tutorials was to reach library staff who may not typically attend library training. According to evaluation results, 25% of the tutorial participants had never attended a Missouri State Library workshop or training event. Almost half of the participants had never taken an online course prior to the tutorials. The Missouri State Library is in the process of scheduling six more online tutorials for 2006.

### *Missouri State Library Continuing Education Committee*

The Missouri State Library Continuing Education Committee met on September 15 at MOREnet in Columbia. The committee continues to discuss the most effective and efficient ways to coordinate continuing education for library staff throughout Missouri. Several training opportunities and resources have been developed as a direct influence of this committee such as additional training in library management, online tutorials in customer services and copyright, and a brochure identifying statewide training providers. To increase awareness of the CE Committee, six statewide training providers from the CE Committee sponsored exhibits at the Missouri Library Association conference in October. Each training provider was identified as a CE Committee partner by a common display sign for each booth.

### *Senior Friendly Libraries Workshops*

Workshops to help library staff build and improve consumer health information services and programs for older adults and their caregivers were conducted in four sites around the state. Barbara Jones, Missouri liaison for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Mid-Continental region, presented the workshops at public libraries in Lebanon, Hannibal, Barnhart, and Cape Girardeau in September. About 35 library staff attended the workshops and

learned how to use medical resources more effectively and discussed methods and ideas for developing programs and services that focus on health issues for older adults.

### *NoveList Program*

A new round of public libraries has been invited to participate in the third year of the state library's readers' advisory program. Participating libraries have access to the electronic readers' advisory database called NoveList, which helps library staff members find appropriate works of fiction for their patrons according to their readers' personal preferences. NoveList also contains expansive book reviews and collection development information, as well as tools for library employees to help develop their face-to-face readers' advisory skills.

Thirty libraries participate in the program and those new to the program will receive training from NoveList representatives in the upcoming weeks. Out of the 30 libraries, 23 are participating for their second or third year and provide 25 percent matching funds according to the population of their district.

### *Trustee Education Workshops*

On Saturday, Nov. 19, 2005 the state library together with the SEMO Direct Librarian's group presented a Trustee Basics workshop at the Cape Girardeau Library with a participation of 20 trustees from five different library districts. The presentation covered the following topics: board member roles & responsibilities, conducting successful board meetings, effective communication with the library director, understanding funding and risk management and planning for future library development.

Over the next four months, the State Library will be presenting a series of special trustee topics via videoconferencing. The presentations will be on the third Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and also offered in an interactive format. After each presentation, the trustees participating will have time to ask questions and receive pertinent information. The topics covered are in response to a demand for addressing personnel and strategic planning issues.

The dates are:

December 15, 2005

January 19, 2006

February 16, 2005

March 16, 2006.

### **Center for the Book**

The Center organized "Hired Justice," a program featuring six Missouri mystery writers at the Schlafly branch of the St. Louis Public Library on September 17.

Two members from the Center's board of directors accompanied Center coordinator Holly Dentner to the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C. on September 24. Missouri was represented at the Pavilion of the States, where children and adults could explore every state's authors and literary heritage.

In October the Center hosted exhibit booths at the Bonniebrook Festival of the Book in Branson and the St. Louis Book Festival. The Center also helped sponsor a poetry slam and the Thorpe Menn Awards at the Kansas City Public Library.

On November 19 the Center hosted its 12<sup>th</sup> annual celebration of the book, featuring Eric Brende, Cathi LaMarche, Missouri Smith, Richard Newman, Mary Jo Bang, and Scott Phillips. Each author read from his or her works, answered questions, and signed books during the daylong event

### **Missouri State Library Scholarship Program**

Missouri State Library Scholarship applications are under review for the Winter 2006 semester. We received 23 eligible applications. New recipients will be announced in December. The scholarship program supported 24 students during the Fall 2005 semester. Six of those students will be graduating in December and begin work commitments at publicly funded libraries. Applications for the Fall 2006 Semester will be accepted from March 1 – April 1, 2006.

**The following LSTA grants totaling \$198,549.05 were awarded in August and September, 2005.**

**LSTA/Gates Hardware Upgrade**

Sedalia Public Library	\$ 14,004.62
Bonne Terre Memorial Library	\$ 11,531.25
Wellsvill Public Library	\$ 1,957.15
Maryville Public Library	\$ 863.25

**Videoconferencing Upgrade**

Carrollton Public Library	\$ 12,306.33
Cass County Public Library	\$ 12,406.33
Little Dixie Regional Library	\$ 11,406.33
Mid-Continent Public Library	\$ 6,400.00
Mississippi County Library	\$ 6,517.33
MO Library Network Corp.	\$ 8,196.00
Northeast Missouri Library Service	\$ 6,418.33
Rolling Hills Consolidated Library	\$ 1,695.00
Springfield-Greene County Library	\$ 7,300.00
West Plains Public Library	\$ 12,406.33

**Remote Vulnerability Assessment Equipment Upgrade**

Cedar County Library	\$ 3,214.70
Riverside Regional Library	\$ 15,210.00
Springfield-Greene County Library	\$ 7,143.00

**LearnATest (Learning Express) – Phase 3**

**First Year Full Funding:**

Bonne Terre Memorial Library	\$ 1,850.00
Mountain View Public Library	\$ 1,600.00
University City Public Library	\$ 3,215.00
Trails Regional Library	\$ 4,575.00
Ray County Library	\$ 3,115.00

**Second Year Funding– 30% Match**

Rolling Hills Consolidated Library	\$ 1,900.50
Daviess County Library	\$ 1,827.00
Festus Public Library	\$ 1,577.00
Cedar County Library	\$ 2,267.00
Kansas City Public Library	\$ 6,860.90
Cass County Public Library	\$ 2,952.50
Caruthersville Public Library	\$ 1,327.20

**Third Year Funding – 60%**

St. Joseph Public Library	\$ 2,130.00
West Plains Public Library	\$ 1,586.00
Barry-Lawrence Regional Library	\$ 2,130.00
Carthage Public Library	\$ 1,186.00
Sedalia Public Library	\$ 1,586.00
St. Louis County Library	\$ 10,796.00
Scotland County Library	\$ 690.00
Barton County Library	\$ 1,586.00
Adair County Public Library	\$ 1,586.00
Livingston Public Library	\$ 1,100.00
Christian County Library	\$ 2,130.00